EXHIBIT E

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BY HAND AND BY EMAIL

January 31, 2007

The Honorable Vincent J. Poppiti Blank Rome LLP Chase Manhattan Center 1201 Market Street, Suite 800 Wilmington, DE 19801

LG.Philips LCD Co., Ltd. v. ViewSonic Corporation, et al.; U.S. District Court Case No. 04-343 JJF

Dear Special Master Poppiti:

Re:

This is Plaintiff LG.Philips LCD Co., Ltd.'s ("LPL") response to Defendants Tatung Company's and Tatung Company of America, Inc.'s (collectively, "Tatung") January 26, 2007 submission concerning LPL's December 22, 2006 motion to compel discovery regarding advice of counsel and due care. The Special Master permitted Tatung to brief whether Tatung has preserved an advice of counsel defense in this case. As explained below, Tatung has not asserted an advice of counsel defense by pleading or otherwise, and it would be unfair and prejudicial for Tatung to do so now (or, worse, at some indefinite future time after the close of discovery). The Special Master should therefore reject Tatung's request to postpone indefinitely – until after resolution of dispositive motions and the close of discovery – the time for Tatung to decide whether to assert an advice of counsel defense, waive privilege, and produce discovery. Tatung's refusal to provide discovery already has severely prejudiced LPL and Tatung has not filed any motion to bifurcate or stay discovery. In any event, bifurcation or a stay would be inappropriate and unfair.

Advice of counsel is a defense to willful infringement that must be *asserted*. Tatung argues that it need not formally plead advice of counsel as an affirmative defense, but this argument fails for two reasons. First, courts in this Circuit characterize advice of counsel as an affirmative defense, which therefore should be pled. *See, e.g., Glenmede Trust Co. v. Thompson*, 56 F.3d 476, 486 (3d Cir. 1995); *see also Johns Hopkins Univ. v. Cellpro*, 160 F.R.D. 30, 34 (D. Del. 1995) (alleged infringer's answer "asserts good faith reliance on advice of counsel as an affirmative defense"). Second, regardless of whether the defense must be pled, Tatung has never *affirmatively asserted* an advice of counsel defense *in any way*, including in response to interrogatory answers or otherwise. Tatung instead has consciously

¹ Tatung concedes that it has never affirmatively asserted an advice of counsel defense. (*See* Tatung's Jan. 8, 2007 Resp. at 2 ("The Tatung Defendants repeatedly have informed LPL that they have not yet decided whether to assert the advice of counsel defense.").) Tatung's failure to assert the defense is dispositive. Tatung cannot, moreover, suggest now that a bare, general denial of LPL's willfulness allegations somehow put LPL on notice that an advice of counsel defense is "an issue." (Tatung's Supp. Subm. at 3.) *See SmithKline Beecham Corp. v. Apotex Corp.*, No.

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The Honorable Vincent J. Poppiti January 31, 2007 Page 2

refused to assert an advice of counsel defense. Tatung's focus on the technical applicability of Rule 8(c), therefore, is misplaced. By failing to assert the defense in any way, and refusing to assert advice of counsel during fact discovery, Tatung has waived the right to assert such a defense. See Edward Lowe Indus., Inc. v. Oil-Dri Corp. of Am., No. 94C 7568, 1995 WL 609231,**5-6 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 13, 1995) (finding that "defendants elected to waive their advice of counsel defense" by asserting privilege throughout fact discovery, "even in opposition to [patent-holder's] motion to compel").

Tatung failed to plead an advice of counsel defense. (D.I. 186 & 187.) Tatung also failed to amend its pleadings by January 17, 2006, the deadline set forth in the Scheduling Order. Compounding this inaction, Tatung has refused for more than one year to state in response to LPL's interrogatories inquiring whether or not Tatung is asserting an advice of counsel defense. In November 2005, LPL served interrogatories asking whether Tatung was asserting any advice of counsel defense. (See Exs. 3 & 4 to LPL's December 22, 2006 L.R. 7.1.1 Certification [hereinafter "Cert."] at Interrogs. 5 & 6.) Tatung has dodged the issue by responding only that it has not yet decided whether to assert the defense. (See id.) Tatung maintained its deliberate indecision in the face of LPL's repeated written requests for information and during the parties' negotiations in December 2006. (See Ex. 34 at 3 & Ex. 35 to Cert.) Tatung has had more than enough time to assert a defense had it chosen to do so. Even now, Tatung does not attempt to assert this new defense, requesting instead an unreasonable and unwarranted postponement of time and bifurcation of discovery.

Tatung has severely prejudiced LPL by using privilege claims to block critical discovery that LPL would have needed by now to prepare for and complete all fact depositions of Tatung's witnesses (and legal counsel who authored any opinions). At the same time, Tatung wants the ability to use this withheld discovery as a sword in the future against willful infringement. Tatung cannot use the attorney-client privilege as both a shield and a sword. See, e.g., Oil-Dri Corp. of Am., 1995 WL 609231 at *5; Tracinda Corp. v. DaimlerChrysler AG, 362 F. Supp. 2d 487, 513 (D. Del. 2005). Timely disclosure of discovery is essential because, as the Third Circuit has explained, LPL must be able to test and explore relevant facts, such as: "what information had been conveyed by the client to counsel and vice-versa"; "whether counsel was provided with all material facts in rendering their advice"; "whether counsel gave a well-informed opinion"; and "whether that advice was heeded by the client." Thompson, 56 F.3d at 486.

Tatung should not be permitted to stay or bifurcate discovery, moreover, at this late date and without filing a proper motion. *See Computer Assocs. Int'l*, *Inc. v. Simple.Com, Inc.*, No. 02 Civ. 2748 DRH MLO, 2006 WL 3050883, *5 (E.D.N.Y. Oct. 23, 2006) (bifurcation considered only upon a properly presented motion). LPL will begin taking Defendants' depositions in this case as soon as possible. LPL should be able to complete its depositions of the Defendants' witnesses on all claims and defenses without having to return to California to re-depose witnesses solely on the advice of counsel issue. In addition, there is substantial overlap between facts and discovery relevant to willful infringement and other issues on which discovery is proceeding. Indeed, Defendants have obtained

99-CV-4304 et al., 2005 WL 2436662, *4 (E.D. Pa. 2005) (finding that a party's general denial of bad faith allegations did not inherently assert an advice of counsel defense).

² LPL disagrees with Tatung's new assertion that, at some unspecified time, Tatung previously disclosed that it (unlike ViewSonic) has obtained an opinion of counsel on which Tatung could attempt to rely. Tatung did not even raise this argument in its January 8 response brief. Instead, LPL's counsel first learned that such an opinion may exist during the January 19 hearing before the Special Master. (See Hr'g Tr. at 70-81, attached as Ex. A.) In any event, the existence of any opinion of counsel does not excuse Tatung's failure to act.

THE BAYARD FIRM

The Honorable Vincent J. Poppiti January 31, 2007 Page 3

discovery from LPL concerning willfulness, and LPL is likewise entitled to complete discovery on willfulness issues.

Tatung acknowledges, moreover, that the so-called "adverse inference rule" pertaining to advice of counsel was recently abolished. (See Tatung Supp. Subm. at 2 (citing Knorr-Bremse Systeme Fuer Nutzfahrzeuge GMBH v. Dana Corp., 383 F.3d 1337, 1341 (Fed. Cir. 2004).) In Knorr-Bremse, the Federal Circuit held that "no adverse inference shall arise from invocation of the attorney-client privilege." Knorr-Bremse, 383 F.3d at 1344-45. "Given that the decision whether or not to assert the advice of counsel defense is no longer tainted by the possibility of an adverse inference, any intrusion into the attorney-client relationship is not undue." Computer Assocs., 2006 WL 3050883 at *5. Accordingly, the decision whether to assert an advice of counsel defense and waive privilege does not warrant bifurcation of discovery or trial. See, e.g., Trading Techs. Intern'l v. Espeed, Inc., 431 F. Supp. 2d 834, 839-41 (N.D. Ill. 2006).

Similar to the situation in *Trading Technologies*, bifurcating discovery or trial in this is inefficient and would be disproportionately burdensome to LPL because issues pertaining to liability, damages and willfulness are interrelated. *Id.* Even before *Knorr-Bremse*, courts recognized the inefficiency of staying willfulness discovery. *See, e.g.*, *Cellpro*, 160 F.R.D. at 36 ("The stop-and-start of a stay of discovery and separate trials undermines our goal of working to apply the Rules of Civil Procedure to obtain a just, speedy and inexpensive resolution of every action."). Tatung should not be permitted to derail discovery and trial schedules, impose disproportionate burdens on LPL, and benefit from its unreasonable delay.

Consistent with Your Honor's prior rulings concerning ViewSonic and with comments made at the January 19 hearing concerning Tatung, LPL respectfully submits that Tatung has failed to assert an advice of counsel defense, has waived any such defense, and that allowing any advice of counsel defense to be asserted now or in the future would be unfair and prejudicial, as would be any motion to bifurcate discovery or trial.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Kirk (rk0922)

cc: Counsel as shown on the attached certificate

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³ In its January 8, 2007 response to LPL's motion to compel advice of counsel discovery, Tatung *failed to acknowledge Knorr-Bremse*, but still relied on pre-*Knorr-Bremse* law to contend unpersuasively that the decision whether to assert advice of counsel poses an unfair dilemma to Tatung. (*See* Tatung's Jan. 8, 2007 Resp. at 1-2 (citing *Quantum Corp. v. Tandon Corp.*, 940 F.2d 642, 643-44 (Fed. Cir. 1991).)

EXHIBIT A

Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

PHILLIPS, L.G., LCD CO., LTD, Plaintiffs,) C.A. No. 04-343(JJF) v. TATUNG CO., TATUNG COMPANY OF AMERICA, INC., and VIEWSONIC CORPORATION, Defendants.

Hearing of above matter taken pursuant to notice before Renee A. Meyers, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public, in the law offices of BLANK ROME, LLP, 1201 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware, on Friday, January 19, 2007, beginning at approximately 11:45 a.m., there being present:

BEFORE: VINCENT J. POPPITI, SPECIAL MASTER

APPEARANCES:

THE BAYARD FIRM RICHARD D. KIRK, ESQ. 222 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900 Wilmington, Delaware 19899 for Plaintiffs

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19 (Pages 70 to 73)

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Page 70
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  1
       the plaintiff, LG Phillips, LCD Company, Ltd. With me on 1
                                                                        Unfortunately, those discussions have ceased because LPI
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       the line in Washington are my colleagues from McKenna,
                                                                  2
                                                                        views, based upon your ruling with Viewsonic, that they
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       Long & Aldridge I believe that we have Cass
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                                                                       need no longer address that issue with us.
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       Christenson, Rel Ambrozy, and Cormac Connor.
                                                                                  It is our view that the problem that we
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                 MR. AMBROZY: And that's all, Dick.
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                                                                       confront is one of timing because of the seriousness of
                                                                       the waiver issues that arise with respect to the
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                 MR. KIRK: Thank you.
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                 MS. GAZA: Your Honor, Anne Gaza for
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                                                                       assertion of this defense.
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       Richards, Layton & Finger on behalf of the Tatung
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                                                                                  In our case, the only discussions that
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       defendants. With me, I believe, are Frank Merideth and
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                                                                       we have had have been related to timing, not related to
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       Valerie Ho from Greenberg Traurig.
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                                                                       the issue of whether or not we have an opinion.
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                 MR. MERIDETH: Yes. This is Frank
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                                                                                  With all due respect, we have looked at
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       Merideth. I think Valerie Ho will join us in a moment
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                                                                       this issue of whether or not advice of counsel must be
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       but we need not wait for her.
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                                                                       alleged as an affirmative defense and the law is not very
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                 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you
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                                                                       clear. However, what we have discovered, in the course
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                 We are turning, then, to the Tatung
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                                                                       of researching the issue, is that the courts seem to take
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       motions that were filed on December 22, and as we begin
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                                                                       the approach, because of the seriousness of the waiver
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       to focus on that, I guess my first question with respect
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                                                                       issue, that the timing of the decision to pursue an
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       to the motion addressing the issue of advice of counsel
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                                                                       opinion or to rely on the advice of counsel is important
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                                                                 19
       is, quite simply, as a practical matter, I expect that I
                                                                       and should be, and, in many cases, is deferred until the
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       have already addressed that in the matter that raises the
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                                                                       later stages of the litigation when the issues are much
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       same issue as it relates to Viewsonic, have I not?
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                                                                       clearer and the ramifications of the waiver that would
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                 MR. MERIDETH: With respect to the
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                                                                       ensue are much more understandable.
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       opinion of counsel, Your Honor?
                                                                 23
                                                                                  SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Well, let me
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                 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes.
                                                                 24
                                                                       ask this, and I don't take anything you have said
                                                                                                                    Page 73
 1
                MR. MERIDETH: You did address it with
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                                                                       lightly. I mean, we are, in fact, dealing with the most
 2
       respect to Viewsonic; however, we, I think, at Tatung,
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                                                                       significant, most respected privilege under our system of
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       are in a little bit of a different position in the
                                                                  3
                                                                       jurisprudence.
 4
      following respect.
                                                                  4
                                                                                  At the same time, isn't it fair to say
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                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Has it been
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                                                                       that the conversation you are wanting to have is one that
 6
      pled?
                                                                  6
                                                                       should be had with Judge Farnan in the first instance and
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                MR. MERIDETH: No, sir.
                                                                  7
                                                                       not with me?
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                MR. CHRISTENSON: Your Honor, our
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                                                                                 I mean, if what you are saying is that
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      position is that this is clearly in the same posture as
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                                                                       you have some law or some guidance that suggests that
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      Your Honor determined with respect to Viewsonic.
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                                                                       advice of counsel does not have to be pled, then what you
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                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I will
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                                                                       may be saying is you want to bring that to my attention.
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      certainly hear why there is an expectation that it is
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                                                                       I don't think you have unless I have missed something
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      different.
                                                                13
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                MR. MERIDETH: The reason that I believe
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                                                                                 MR. MERIDETH: Yes, we can bring that to
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      it is different in this case, which I think is -- or in
                                                                1.5
                                                                       your attention. But what I am suggesting is that we may
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      our instance, which I think is unlike the Viewsonic
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                                                                       not need to address that issue, necessarily, if we can
1.7
      instance, we have notified LPL that we have an opinion of
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                                                                       reach an agreement with respect to timing.
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      counsel. We have been discussing with LPL when the
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                                                                                 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Oh, I don't
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      election would be made or when the decision would be made 19
                                                                       disagree. I mean, if --
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      by us as to when -- as to whether we are going to assert
                                                                20
                                                                                 MR. MERIDETH: We can go through that
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      that opinion of counsel, and, consequently, waive
                                                                21
                                                                       step, and if your view ultimately is that an affirmative
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                                                                22
      whatever privileges may result
                                                                       defense needs to be asserted, then we would amend and
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                                                                23
                That is different, I think, in terms of
                                                                       assert it and then we'd come back to the issue of timing.
24
      posture than the Viewsonic situation was in.
                                                                24
                                                                       I'd just as soon skip that intervening step, but we can
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20 (Pages 74 to 77)

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Page 74 Page 76 1 do that if LPL insists that we do it. from the Third Circuit that I would like to bring to your 1 2 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: 2 attention that has to do with the timing of the 3 Mr. Christenson. 3 disclosure which I think --4 MR. CHRISTENSON: Your Honor, to respond 4 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I understand 5 to the argument, first of all, the argument being made, I 5 the sensitivity with respect to timing, and, again, you 6 believe, is very similar, if not identical, to 6 can expect that, although I certainly have the 7 Viewsonic's argument. Tatung's position is that they opportunity to have input to the Court with respect to 7 В should have more time and be able to defer their decision 8 scheduling prior to trial, that is usually focused on 9 because the issue of whether to waive privilege is a 9 issues involving discovery, not on issues involving 10 significant issue. Viewsonic made that same argument. 10 substance. 11 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: It did. 11 MR. MERIDETH: Well, I understand, 12 MR CHRISTENSON: However, as Your Honor 12 although I think the recent scheduling order indicated 13 concluded, there was nothing in the pleadings asserted by that substantive motions should first be brought to your 14 Viewsonic, and, similarly, there has been nothing in the 14 attention 15 pleadings asserted by Tatung. 15 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Well, that's 16 In addition, Your Honor, there has been 16 correct The way I view that, the language in that 17 no motion filed by any defendant to extend the time 17 scheduling order, I expect, and let me turn to it 18 either to make it an election on this issue or to 18 again -- although I have put it aside for purposes of 19 bifurcate discovery or to extend the time to amend 19 moving on in our business -- that refers squarely to 20 defenses. 20 paragraph nine and it assigns to me initial decision 21 Discovery in this case is about to close 21 regarding any case dispositive motions 22 under the current schedule. Our position, as set forth 22 MR. MERIDETH: Okay. Well, then we can 23 in our papers, was that, to the extent this is an issue 23 -- I mean, the problem that I have, frankly, is that we 24 in the case, we would need to obtain immediately all 24 were in the midst of a meet and confer about the timing Page 75 Page 77 relevant discovery on this issue so that we could close 1 1 with respect to disclosure and the election to rely on 2 our discovery under the schedule. But, again, I believe 2 the opinion of counsel, the decision that you made with 3 that the same rationale and analysis that you have respect to Viewsonic, which I think is in a different 3 4 discussed with respect to Viewsonic applies to Tatung. 4 category for the reasons that I have previously 5 And another thing I would note is, in 5 explained, came down, and those discussions have ceased 6 Interrogatory No. 6, LPL had asked Tatung to state 6 If what we have to do is now file a 7 whether it intended to rely on any legal opinions for 7 motion --8 advice as part of its defense, and, if so, to identify 8 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Well, again --9 each such legal opinion. And they responded by stating 9 MR MERIDETH: -- we will do it. It's 10 that they have not yet determined which defenses they 10 not a problem. And if it has to be filed with Judge 11 will pursue, including whether they will rely on any 11 Farnan, we will do it. 1.2 advice of counsel as a defense. SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: It's not a 12 13 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Well, you 13 motion before me, is it? Again, as I read the language brought -- and you have advised me of that. 14 14 in the scheduling order, which still stands, at paragraph 15 MR CHRISTENSON: And, so, we think 15 seven of that order, "All motions to amend the pleadings 16 that, by not making a decision, essentially, they have 16 shall be filed on or before January 17, 2006," and I 17 made their decision and that you should reach the same 17 think what you are telling me is that you don't view this 18 conclusion that you reached with respect to Viewsonic. 18 to be -- you don't -- you don't believe that an amended 19 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Let me ask this 19 pleading is necessary here? 20 question: The authority that you are suggesting you are MR. MERIDETH: That's correct. And we 20 21 aware of, Mr. Merideth, is that from this District's 21 will brief that issue and request the Court to establish 22 Court or from the Third Circuit? 22 the dates. And I don't think there is any necessity to

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meet and confer because we have met and conferred and

they have terminated those discussions.

MR MERIDETH: I am not familiar with

all of the authorities. There is one case that is not

21 (Pages 78 to 81)

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Page 78
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                 MR. CHRISTENSON: That's not a fair
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                                                                                 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: And I need a
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      characterization. But, in any event --
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                                                                      time frame and I want it to be a short time frame
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                 MR. MERIDETH: They have specifically
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                                                                      because, certainly, at least with respect to Viewsonic,
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      denied ---
                                                                 4
                                                                      and you say you are postured differently than them, but
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                 MR. CHRISTENSON: If I may finish? In
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                                                                      with respect to that, that record is closed, it's sitting
  6
      any event, it sounds like there is some contention as to
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                                                                      on a desk waiting for some attention, and I expect it may
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                                                                 7
      file a motion to bifurcate discovery with respect to
                                                                      be moving its way up to Judge Farnan.
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      willfulness at this point. There are a lot of reasons we
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                                                                                MR. MERIDETH: We could file our brief
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                                                                 9
      would oppose that, but I guess it doesn't serve any
                                                                      on that next week.
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      purpose to go into that at this point.
                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: By when,
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                 It sounds, just listening to the
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                                                                      please?
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      discussion today, it sounds to me like Tatung's intent is
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                                                                                MR MERIDETH: Friday.
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      not to seek to extend the time to amend defenses because
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                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay.
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      they feel that this is not an appropriate defense. It
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                                                                      Mr. Christenson, when do you need?
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      sounds to me like they feel that the motion they would
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                                                                                MR. CHRISTENSON: Your Honor, as a
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      bring is a motion to bifurcate discovery with respect to
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                                                                      preliminary matter, obviously, as I mentioned, we feel
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      advice of counsel, which, of course, the defendants have
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                                                                      that it's far too late in the day for them to be seeking
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      sought affirmatively discovery related to willfulness
                                                               18
                                                                      now to bifurcate.
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      from LPL, and for them to now seek to bifurcate discovery 19
                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I understand
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      from them seems unworkable to me but it doesn't sound
                                                                      your position.
                                                               20
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      like an issue that's pending that we would be dealing
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                                                                                MR. CHRISTENSON: But in terms of a
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      substantively with today.
                                                               22
                                                                      response date, Your Honor, if you are permitting them to
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                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: We wouldn't be 23
                                                                      file a motion next Friday --
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      dealing with it substantively today, and I think it would
                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: It's really
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      be inappropriate for me to provide any other view than
                                                                     supplementing what I already have.
                                                                1
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      the view that I took in the Viewsonic matter in terms of
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                                                                                MR CHRISTENSON: I may have
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      whether or not this defense is one that should be pled.
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                                                                     misunderstood. Just so I am clear, I guess is it your
                                                                     intention, then, to receive supplemental submissions on
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                I am happy to be informed on that issue,
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      if that's what you choose to do, and, at the same time,
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                                                                     this pending motion with respect to providing case law
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      you may be wanting to measure whether you should be
                                                                6
                                                                     and related arguments?
 7
      seeking Judge Farnan's attention in terms of an
                                                                7
                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes. And if I
 8
      amendment. But I leave that to you.
                                                                8
                                                                     am persuaded by the case law, then, clearly, we have to
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                                                                9
                MR. MERIDETH: I understand. But I am
                                                                     have some further discussion.
10
      not sure that, even if I were able to persuade you, which
                                                               10
                                                                                MR. CHRISTENSON: If they file their
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      I feel reasonably confident we could, that an affirmative
                                                               11
                                                                     submission on next Friday, Your Honor, we should be able
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      defense of advice of counsel is not required, I think you
                                                               12
                                                                     to respond by the following Wednesday.
13
      have said you are not in a position to address that issue
                                                               13
                                                                                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay Pages,
14
      in any event.
                                                               14
                                                                     please?
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                SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: No, I didn't
                                                               15
                                                                               MR. CHRISTENSON: I would propose two
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      say that. I want you to, if you believe that you -- if
                                                               16
                                                                     pages at the most, each side
17
      you have authority that you want me to be made aware of
                                                              17
                                                                               MR. MERIDETH: Three might be better.
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      which suggests that you are in a position to ask that I
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                                                                               SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I can live with
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      do something with respect to the discovery and that I am
                                                              19
                                                                     three.
20
      in a position to do something with respect to when you
                                                              20
                                                                               MR. MERIDETH: Thank you, Your Honor.
21
      identify whether or not you intend to assert advice of
                                                              21
                                                                               SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Mr. Kirk, since
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      counsel, then I want to be aware of that
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                                                                     you are on the line with this, would you do the courtesy
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                MR. MERIDETH: Okay. I would be happy
                                                              23
                                                                     of memorializing this section of our work today?
24
      to brief that issue.
                                                              24
                                                                               MR. KJRK: Yes, I will, Your Honor.
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Page 10 of 10

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned counsel certifies that, on January 31, 2007, copies of the

foregoing document were served as follows:

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